



P2. NATIONAL



What India's young people are saying about families

- Understanding India's demographic transition by analysing falling fertility, youth aspirations and the policy choices needed to convert demographic change into demographic dividend.

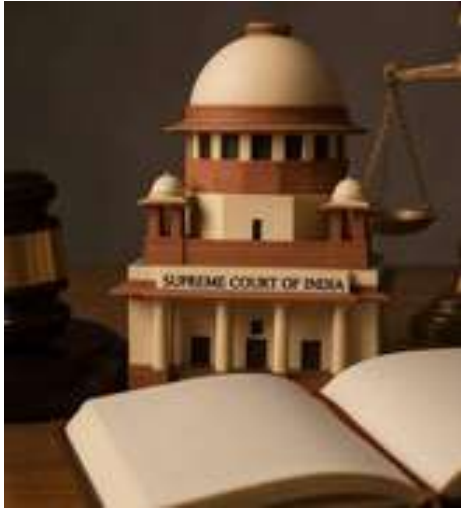
P3. NATIONAL



For the first time, undergraduate enrolments decline in India

- The first-ever decline in undergraduate enrolment reveals why access alone is insufficient and why retention and completion must become the new focus of higher education policy.

P4. NATIONAL



Resignation of Judges & Judicial Accountability: The Justice Yashwant Varma Case

- A constitutional exploration of judicial independence, impeachment, resignation at will and the accountability gap exposed by the resignation of a judge facing removal proceedings.

P7. ECONOMICS



The unfinished business of the India-U.K. trade deal

- A balanced assessment of India's landmark trade agreement with the U.K., highlighting its economic opportunities while identifying unresolved issues in investment, intellectual property and climate-related trade.

Editor's Note

Each edition of the Pala Civil Times is designed with a single objective: to help aspirants develop an informed, objective and analytical understanding of issues shaping contemporary India and the world. This edition explores the growing anxieties surrounding family formation among India's youth through the lens of demographic transition, and examines the country's first-ever decline in undergraduate enrolment to understand its implications for higher education policy and human capital development. On the constitutional front, it analyses the principle of "resignation at will" for Supreme Court and High Court judges, using recent developments to discuss judicial independence, accountability and constitutional morality. The economic section presents a balanced assessment of the India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), highlighting both its opportunities and the challenges that remain. The decoded editorials examine the constitutional and governance issues arising from the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and its implications beyond the electoral process, while the international affairs section studies the growing security challenges faced by Indian seafarers in conflict-prone maritime regions and the policy measures needed to protect them. Collectively, these summaries aim to cultivate constitutional values, evidence-based policy thinking and a problem-solving approach, enabling students to move beyond facts towards a deeper understanding of governance, public policy and contemporary affairs. We hope this edition becomes a valuable companion in your preparation. Happy Reading!

Editorials Decoded

The Indian EXPRESS

Protect seafarers, and the maritime order



An examination of the growing risks faced by Indian seafarers in global conflict zones and the legal, diplomatic and institutional measures needed to safeguard them

THE HINDU

Lists of folly



Analysing the constitutional limits of linking electoral roll revisions with citizenship, welfare entitlements and other civil rights.

What India's young people are saying about families

India's **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)** has stabilised at **2.0 children per woman**, below the replacement level of 2.1, marking a major stage in its demographic transition. According to the **UNFPA Demographic Futures Survey (2026)**, this is not evidence of declining interest in family life but the outcome of decades of investment in girls' education, maternal healthcare, family planning and reproductive health services. Child marriage has also declined, with the **share of women married before 18 years falling from 23.3% to 20.1%**, reflecting improved social development and greater reproductive choice.

Why Young Indians are Delaying Parenthood

The UNFPA survey shows that most young Indians still aspire to have families, with two children remaining the ideal family size for a majority. However, the decision to marry or have children is increasingly shaped by practical constraints rather than changing social values. The biggest barriers are **financial insecurity, high housing costs, unstable employment and concerns about raising children**. Young women continue to bear a disproportionate burden of unpaid domestic work while female labour force participation remains significantly lower than that of men. As a result, many women perceive parenthood as requiring a trade-off between career aspirations and family life.



Emerging Demographic Challenges

Beyond economic factors, new social and environmental pressures are influencing fertility decisions. Many young people report **climate change, conflict, economic uncertainty and environmental risks as major sources of anxiety**, affecting both their mental well-being and confidence in planning families. India also exhibits significant regional demographic variation. **States such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Delhi and Sikkim have fertility rates well below replacement level, whereas Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand continue to record relatively higher fertility**. These disparities indicate that India's demographic transition is uneven, requiring State-specific rather than uniform national policy responses.

RELEVANCE

GS-I: Population and Associated Issues

Key Challenges and Contemporary Context

The focus should not be on increasing birth rates through coercive measures but on enabling informed reproductive choices. Priority areas include **expanding affordable childcare, quality maternal and reproductive healthcare, stable employment opportunities, affordable housing and youth mental health services**. Promoting shared caregiving responsibilities, **improving female workforce participation** and ensuring family-friendly workplaces through parental leave and flexible work arrangements can reduce the economic and social costs of parenthood. Population policy should therefore prioritise choice, dignity and gender equality rather than demographic targets.

Way Forward

India is home to around **255 million people aged 15–24 years**, representing one of the world's largest youth populations and a significant demographic dividend. To fully realise this opportunity, policies must convert favourable demographics into productive human capital through investment in education, healthcare, skill development, employment generation and social security. Population data generated by institutions such as UNFPA should guide evidence-based policymaking and State-specific interventions. India's long-term demographic objective should not be to maximise population growth but to create conditions where young people can freely choose if, when and how to build families while contributing productively to national development.

PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. Globalization has increased urban migration by skilled, young, unmarried women from various classes. How has this trend impacted upon their personal freedom and relationship with family? (GS I – Indian Society – 2024)

For the first time, undergraduate enrolments decline in India

The **All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2023-24** records a significant development: undergraduate (UG) enrolment declined for the first time since the survey began in 2011. Although overall higher education enrolment increased marginally by 3.7 lakh (0.8%), this was the lowest increase on record, while **UG enrolment**, which accounts for over 75% of total higher education enrolment, **fell by about 93,000 (0.27%)**. This decline occurred despite an increase in the eligible youth population and a rise in the number of participating Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), making it an important policy concern.

Key Trends in the Decline

The decline was largely concentrated among male students, whose UG enrolment fell by 2.2%, while female enrolment increased by 1.8%, indicating continued progress in women's participation. Regionally, the **sharpest declines were recorded in West Bengal, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh**, with significant reductions also seen in Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir. Conversely, **Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Karnataka and Odisha registered enrolment gains**, with Tamil Nadu recording the highest increase. **Discipline-wise, the decline was concentrated in Arts, Science and Commerce**, while Uttar Pradesh displayed a unique shift, where falling UG enrolment was almost matched by a substantial rise in Diploma admissions, suggesting changing educational preferences.



Why Enrolment Alone is an Incomplete Indicator

The decline in undergraduate enrolment suggests that expanding access alone is insufficient to sustain participation in higher education. Although the National Education Policy (NEP 2020) targets a Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of 50% by 2035, the latest AISHE data indicate that enrolment gains cannot be taken for granted. Policymakers should therefore examine whether students are successfully transitioning from secondary school to higher education, whether they are remaining enrolled, and whether they are completing their degrees. Monitoring these indicators can help identify where students are exiting the education pipeline and enable timely policy interventions.

Challenges Affecting Higher Education Participation

Low participation and completion arise from multiple structural barriers. These include uneven quality of HEIs, faculty shortages, inadequate infrastructure, weak school-level learning foundations, regional disparities in access, and financial constraints after secondary education. Many rural students face high migration and living costs due to the concentration of quality institutions in urban centres. Socially disadvantaged groups continue to face lower completion rates, while limited academic support and counselling further increase the risk of dropout. These factors may not fully explain the recent UG decline but remain important obstacles to sustained higher education participation.

Way Forward

Expanding financial aid, scholarships and targeted bridge courses, establishing systems for early identification of at-risk students, and operationalising NEP 2020's multiple entry-exit framework with the Academic Bank of Credits can improve retention. Greater use of hybrid and distance learning, coupled with region-specific expansion of quality HEIs, will enhance access. Ultimately, strengthening transition, retention and completion is essential for converting India's demographic dividend into a productive workforce.

PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. What is the aim of the programme 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan'? (2017)

- Achieving 100% literacy by promoting collaboration between voluntary organizations and government's education system and local communities.
- Connecting institutions of higher education with local communities to address development challenges through appropriate technologies.
- Strengthening India's scientific research institutions in order to make India a scientific and technological power.
- Developing human capital by allocating special funds for health care and education of rural and urban poor, and organizing skill development programmes and vocational training for them.

RELEVANCE

GS-II: Social Justice (Education & Human Resource Development);

Resignation of Judges & Judicial Accountability: The Justice Yashwant Varma Case

The resignation of former High Court Judge Justice Yashwant Varma, while impeachment proceedings under the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968 were pending, has revived the debate on judicial accountability and constitutional safeguards governing the resignation of judges. The proceedings originated after the recovery of partially burnt currency notes from his official residence in 2025. Although he resigned in April 2026, questions remain regarding his official status and the future of the parliamentary inquiry. The case highlights the tension between judicial independence and institutional accountability.

Removal Procedure and the Principle of Resignation at Will

Under the **Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968**, a motion to remove a Supreme Court or High Court judge must be signed by 100 Lok Sabha members or 50 Rajya Sabha members and admitted by the Speaker or Chairman. If admitted, a three-member Inquiry Committee—comprising a Supreme Court judge (or the Chief Justice of India), a Chief Justice of a High Court and a distinguished jurist—investigates the charges before Parliament considers removal. However, judges also enjoy the constitutional power to **resign at will**, meaning they can resign by writing to the President without requiring acceptance. This safeguard, reaffirmed in **Union of India v. Gopal Chandra Misra (1978)**, protects judicial independence by insulating judges from executive control.

Effect of Resignation on Inquiry Proceedings

A judge's resignation does not invalidate the Inquiry Committee's investigation, since it examines conduct while the judge was in office. Accordingly, the Committee's report must still be submitted. However, once the judge resigns, they no longer hold constitutional office and cannot be removed through impeachment, rendering the pending removal motion ineffective. Consequently, although the findings become part of the public record, Parliament cannot complete the impeachment process under the existing law.

Key Issues and Challenges

The case exposes a significant loophole in India's judicial accountability framework. A judge facing impeachment can resign before Parliament concludes the removal process, thereby avoiding a final constitutional determination on misconduct. This weakens public confidence in judicial accountability and limits Parliament's oversight role. At the same time, any reform must preserve the principle of judicial independence, ensuring that resignation procedures are not subjected to executive or political influence.

Way Forward

Addressing this gap requires constitutional and statutory reforms. During the pendency of removal proceedings, a judge's resignation could be made subject to acceptance by the Chief Justice of India, rather than the Executive, thereby safeguarding judicial independence while preventing misuse of the resignation mechanism. The Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968 may also be amended to allow Parliament to discuss Inquiry Committee reports even after a judge has resigned, ensuring greater transparency and accountability. Such reforms would strengthen public trust while maintaining the constitutional balance between judicial independence, parliamentary oversight and the rule of law.

PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. Consider the following statements: (2019)

1. The motion to impeach a Judge of the Supreme Court of India cannot be rejected by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha as per the Judges (Inquiry) Act 1968.
2. The Constitution of India defines and gives details of what constitutes 'Incapacity and proved misbehaviour' of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India.
3. The details of the process of impeachment of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India are given in the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
4. If the motion for the impeachment of a Judge is taken up for voting, the law requires the motion to be backed by each House of the Parliament and supported by a majority of total membership of that House and by not less than two-thirds of total members of that House present and voting.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 3 and 4 only

RELEVANCE GS II: Indian Polity

Lists of folly (The Hindu : 22-07-2026)

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) is an exercise undertaken by the Election Commission of India (ECI) to verify and update electoral rolls, ensuring that only eligible voters remain enrolled. Recent controversy arose after the West Bengal government linked deletion from the electoral roll to the withdrawal of welfare benefits, including Public Distribution System (PDS) rations, cash transfer schemes and caste certificate verification. Similar statements were later made by the Chief Ministers of Punjab and Karnataka, suggesting that participation in the SIR would help beneficiaries continue receiving welfare benefits. This has triggered a constitutional debate on whether electoral status can determine access to welfare or other civil rights.

Supreme Court's Position and the Legal Framework

The Supreme Court has consistently held that the consequences of SIR are confined solely to electoral rights. In its judgment upholding the ECI's power to conduct the SIR, the Court clarified that exclusion from the electoral roll only affects a person's right to vote and does not determine citizenship or any other legal entitlement. The Court has therefore questioned the legality of West Bengal's orders linking SIR outcomes to welfare schemes. The ECI itself has maintained that SIR is merely a revision of electoral rolls and not a mechanism for determining citizenship, which remains governed by the Citizenship Act and the competent authorities under it.



Electoral Rolls, Citizenship and Welfare: The Legal Distinction

The controversy stems from an important constitutional distinction. **While every registered voter must be a citizen, every citizen is not necessarily a registered voter.** Therefore, exclusion from the electoral roll cannot automatically imply loss of citizenship or denial of welfare entitlements. In practice, however, voter identity cards and electoral roll entries are often accepted as supporting documents for availing government schemes, proving age, identity or domicile. Consequently, **deletion during the SIR may create practical difficulties in accessing benefits such as pensions, health insurance, labour registration and financial assistance**, even though there is no direct legal link between electoral registration and eligibility for such schemes.

RELEVANCE

GS II : Indian Polity

Key Issues and Challenges

The issue highlights the need to balance electoral integrity with constitutional rights and social welfare. While maintaining accurate electoral rolls is essential for free and fair elections, linking SIR outcomes to welfare benefits risks violating the principles of natural justice, equality and the right to livelihood, particularly when appeals against deletion remain pending. Large-scale exclusions may disproportionately affect vulnerable groups dependent on food security, pensions and direct benefit transfers. The controversy also illustrates how administrative reliance on voter records as proof of identity can unintentionally convert an electoral exercise into a barrier to accessing welfare and public services.

Way Forward

The SIR should remain strictly confined to its electoral purpose, with no adverse consequences extending to welfare delivery, citizenship status or civil rights unless determined under the relevant law by the competent authority. Governments should accept multiple forms of identity and domicile proof for welfare schemes rather than relying excessively on electoral rolls. Simultaneously, the ECI should ensure transparent verification, timely disposal of appeals and effective grievance redressal to minimise wrongful exclusions. Clear coordination between the Election Commission and State governments is necessary so that efforts to maintain clean electoral rolls do not undermine constitutional guarantees, due process and access to essential welfare benefits.

PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



- Q. Right to vote and to be elected in India is a (2017)
- (a) Fundamental Right
 - (b) Natural Right
 - (c) Constitutional Right
 - (d) Legal Right

Protect seafarers, and the maritime order (Indian Express : 22-07-2026)

The deaths of Indian seafarers aboard the MV Golden Leo during a Russian missile strike in the Black Sea and earlier attacks on the MT Settebello near the Strait of Hormuz highlight the growing risks faced by civilian merchant shipping in modern conflicts. Merchant vessels carrying commercial cargo are increasingly exposed to missiles, drones, mines and piracy despite being non-combatants. As India supplies over 12% of the world's seafarers (around 3.2 lakh), the safety of Indian sailors has become a strategic, humanitarian and economic concern, directly affecting global trade, energy security and freedom of navigation.

Key Challenges Facing Indian Seafarers

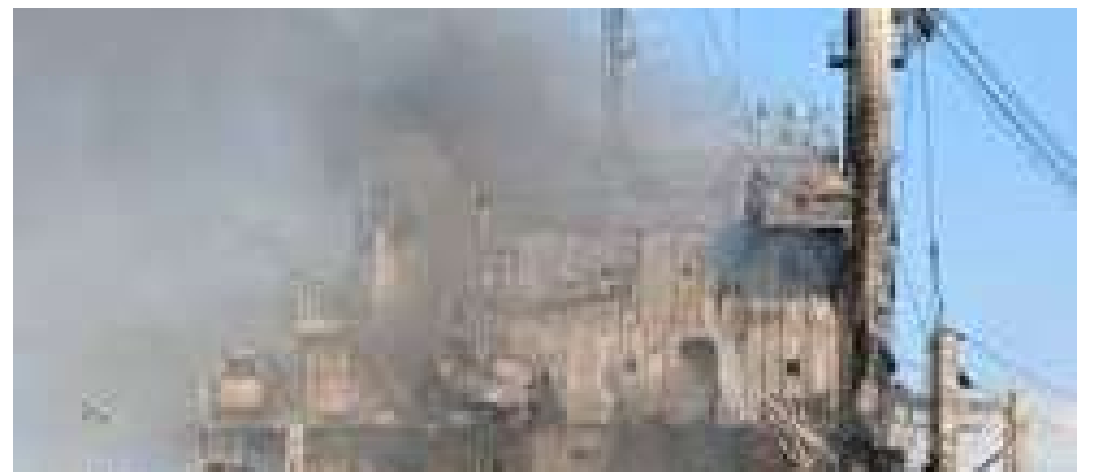
Indian seafarers usually serve on foreign-flagged vessels, creating complex legal and administrative challenges during crises. Their constantly moving workplace makes consular protection difficult, as no single authority tracks them across jurisdictions. In cases of abandonment, detention or attacks, responsibility is often divided among the flag State, shipowner, insurer, port authorities and Indian missions. **1,125 Indian seafarers were abandoned in 2025**, the highest among all nationalities. Besides the **Black Sea and Strait of Hormuz**, risks also persist in the **Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and West African waters** due to conflict and piracy.

International Law and India's Immediate Response

International Humanitarian Law (IHL) protects civilians and prohibits attacks on merchant ships unless they are being used for military purposes. Such attacks also undermine the long-standing principle of freedom of navigation, which is essential for global commerce. Following recent incidents, India lodged diplomatic protests, launched the Seafarer First initiative to monitor Indian crews in West Asia, created dashboards for vessel and crew tracking, appointed liaison officers for affected families and advised shipowners against deploying Indian seafarers through high-risk routes such as the Strait of Hormuz until conditions improve.

Government Response and Legal Framework

India requires a standing maritime consular protocol that clearly defines responsibilities from the moment a distress call is received. Indian missions in major shipping hubs should have dedicated maritime officers with established links to port authorities, hospitals, insurers and legal experts. Bilateral maritime agreements should expand beyond employment opportunities to include provisions for legal assistance, repatriation and consular access. Seafarers must also receive mandatory informed consent, including disclosure of vessel ownership, insurance status, sanctions, previous abandonment records and route-specific risks, along with the right to refuse deployment in declared war-risk zones without professional penalties.



Way Forward

Protecting Indian seafarers requires a coordinated approach involving the Ministries of External Affairs, Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Labour, Defence and intelligence agencies. India should strengthen naval presence, maritime surveillance, hostage-rescue preparedness and real-time intelligence sharing in vulnerable regions while continuing to uphold international maritime law through forums such as the UN, International Maritime Organization (IMO) and International Labour Organization (ILO). Cooperation with other major seafarer-supplying countries such as the Philippines and Indonesia can help establish stronger global standards on deployment, repatriation and worker protection. Ultimately, India's maritime ambitions must place the welfare and safety of its seafarers at the centre, irrespective of the flag under which they sail.

PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q. 'Sea is an important Component of the Cosmos' Discuss in the light of the above statement the role of the IMO (International Maritime Organisation) in protecting environment and enhancing maritime safety and security. (GS II – 2023)

The unfinished business of the India-U.K. trade deal

The India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), which came into force on 15 July 2026, is one of India's most comprehensive free trade agreements in recent years. Aligned with the India-U.K. Vision 2035, it seeks to deepen cooperation in trade, investment, technology, innovation, climate and services, while strengthening the strategic partnership between the two countries. The agreement aims to double bilateral trade to over US\$100 billion by 2030 and serves as an important milestone in India's strategy of expanding trade through rules-based economic partnerships.

Major Gains for India

The biggest achievement is zero-duty access for 99% of Indian exports to the U.K., benefiting labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, leather, footwear, marine products and gems & jewellery, along with high-value sectors including engineering goods and chemicals. The agreement also expands opportunities in IT, healthcare, education, financial and professional services, while improving mobility for skilled professionals and allowing greater collaboration in education and skill development. Indian firms gain access to the U.K.'s government procurement market, and provisions relating to digital trade, intellectual property, labour, gender and innovation support integration into global value chains, attract investment in emerging sectors such as AI and green technologies, and strengthen initiatives like Make in India, Digital India and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Key Issues Left Unresolved

Despite its broad coverage, CETA deliberately leaves several sensitive issues outside its framework. First, it does not include a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT), leaving investors without dedicated treaty-based protection or an investor-state dispute settlement mechanism because India and the U.K. continue to differ on international arbitration provisions. Second, India retained Section 3(d) of the Patents Act, 1970, rejecting demands for stronger pharmaceutical patent protection and thereby preserving the availability of affordable generic medicines. Third, the U.K.'s proposed Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), scheduled from 2027, remains outside the agreement. As a result, Indian exporters of carbon-intensive products such as steel, aluminium and cement may continue to face additional carbon-related costs despite enjoying lower import tariffs.

RELEVANCE

GS-II: International Relations (Bilateral Relations)

GS-III: Indian Economy (Trade Agreements)

Challenges and Policy Priorities

The success of CETA will depend on India's ability to translate preferential market access into greater export competitiveness. Indian industries, particularly MSMEs, must improve product quality, sustainability standards, regulatory compliance and certification to fully utilise the agreement. Exporters in sectors likely to be affected by CBAM will need to accelerate green manufacturing and decarbonisation. At the policy level, India and the U.K. must continue negotiations on a Bilateral Investment Treaty, while maintaining a balance between attracting investment and protecting regulatory sovereignty. Industry bodies and government agencies also have an important role in creating awareness about market access opportunities, procurement rules and compliance requirements.

Way Forward

The India-U.K. CETA represents a high-quality, next-generation trade agreement that substantially improves market access, services trade and economic cooperation without compromising India's core policy interests in areas such as agriculture, pharmaceuticals and strategic manufacturing. While unresolved issues relating to investment protection, climate-related trade measures and intellectual property remain, the agreement provides a strong institutional foundation for future negotiations. It can also serve as a model for India's ongoing trade negotiations with partners such as the European Union, while enhancing India's integration into global value chains through the U.K.'s wider commercial and financial networks.

PYQ Compass

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Q. Justify the need for FDI for the development of the Indian economy. Why there is gap between MoUs signed and actual FDIs? Suggest remedial steps to be taken for increasing actual FDIs in India. (GS III – 2016)

PYQ Compass

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Q. Consider the following statements: (2019)

1. The motion to impeach a Judge of the Supreme Court of India cannot be rejected by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha as per the Judges (Inquiry) Act 1968.
2. The Constitution of India defines and gives details or what constitutes 'Incapacity and proved misbehaviour' of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India.
3. The details of the process of. impeachment of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India are given in the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
4. If the motion for the impeachment of a Judge is taken up for voting, the law requires the motion to be backed by each House of the Parliament and supported by a majority of total membership of that House and by not less than two-thirds of total members of that House present and voting.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 3 and 4 only

Ans: c

Statement 1: This is incorrect. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha or the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha has the discretion to admit or reject a motion to impeach a Judge, as per the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968. The motion can be rejected if it does not meet the prescribed criteria. **Statement 2: This is incorrect.** The Constitution of India does not define or elaborate on what constitutes 'incapacity' and 'proved misbehaviour' of Judges. These terms are left for interpretation during the impeachment process.

Statement 3: This is correct. The Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968, lays down the procedure for investigation and impeachment of Judges, including the formation of an inquiry committee. **Statement 4: This is correct.** The procedure for impeachment, as per Article 124(4), requires: A majority of the total membership of the House. A majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting in each House of Parliament.

Q. Right to vote and to be elected in India is a (2017)

- (a) Fundamental Right
- (b) Natural Right
- (c) Constitutional Right
- (d) Legal Right

Ans : C

The right to vote and to be elected in India is a Constitutional Right. It is governed by Article 326 of the Constitution, which provides that elections to the House of the People and the Legislative Assemblies of States shall be based on adult suffrage. While it is not a Fundamental Right, it is essential for the democratic process.

PYQ Compass

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Q. What is the aim of the programme 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan'? (2017)

- Achieving 100% literacy by promoting collaboration between voluntary organizations and government's education system and local communities.
- Connecting institutions of higher education with local communities to address development challenges through appropriate technologies.
- Strengthening India's scientific research institutions in order to make India a scientific and technological power.
- Developing human capital by allocating special funds for health care and education of rural and urban poor, and organizing skill development programmes and vocational training for them.

Ans : b

- Connecting institutions of higher education with local communities to address development challenges through appropriate technologies.
- 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan' (UBA) aims to link Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) such as IITs, NITs, IISERs, Central Universities and other colleges with at least five villages.
- The objective is to identify local development problems and solve them through knowledge, research, innovation and appropriate technology.
- It promotes participatory rural development by involving faculty, students, village communities and district administration.

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Q4. With reference to the removal of judges in India, consider the following statements:

- A motion for removal of a High Court judge can be introduced only after being signed by at least 100 Lok Sabha members or 50 Rajya Sabha members.
- Once the presiding officer admits the motion, a three-member Inquiry Committee is constituted under the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
- The resignation of a High Court judge requires formal acceptance by the President before becoming effective.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

Statement 1 is correct. The Constitution and the Judges (Inquiry) Act prescribe these minimum numbers.

Statement 2 is correct. A three-member committee investigates the allegations after admission of the motion.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Judges enjoy the constitutional power to resign at will; acceptance by the President is not required.